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This invention claims the benefit of priority under Title 35 USC \$119(e) of provisional application for patent Serial No. 60/051,052,

filed 27 June 1997.-

Page 12, line 28, please delete "defines".

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim without prejudice.

Please amend claims 2, 14 and 18 as follows:

Claim 2 (Amended)

A distribution system for transforming and exchanging data between heterogeneous computer systems, comprising:

- a) a systems interface for defining logical import and export data interfaces, data transformation rule sets and scripts;
- b) a metadata database for storing said logical import and export data interfaces, data transformation rule sets and scripts;
- c) a script processor for [controlling] <u>utilizing metadata from</u> the metadata database to control data transformation within said systems interface and movement of said data into and out of said distribution system; and
- d) a rule set processor responsive to said script processor for manipulating a data bag for storing imported data and a data bag for storing export data.

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Claim 14 (Amended)

cont.

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